

C. As shown, in Fig. 17, each central portion 40 is substantially perpendicular to a line connecting the centers Y, Y, of the adjacent balls 35, 35.

IN THE CLAIMS:

C2 1. (Twice Amended) A linear motion device comprising:  
2 an outer member;  
3 an inner member facing said outer member via a gap;  
4 a multiplicity of balls disposed between said outer  
5 member and said inner member; and  
6 a plurality of spacers;  
7 said outer member being linearly moveable relative to  
8 said inner member;  
9 wherein each spacer is disposed between two adjacent  
10 balls and has two concave surfaces facing respectively to said  
11 two balls; and  
12 a sectional shape of each concave surface of at least one  
13 spacer is such that a central portion of said concave surface  
14 ~~is rectilinearly connected to an outer edge of the spacer.~~

C3 2. (Amended) A linear motion device comprising:

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2 an outer member;  
3 an inner member facing said outer member via a gap;  
4 a multiplicity of balls disposed between said outer  
5 member and said inner member; and  
6 a plurality of spacers;  
7 said outer member being linearly movable relative to said  
8 inner member;  
9 wherein each spacer is disposed between two adjacent  
10 balls and has two concave surfaces facing respectively to said  
11 two balls; and  
12 a sectional shape of each concave surface of at least one  
13 spacer is such that the spacer is in substantially circular  
14 line contact with the adjacent balls.

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Please add the following claims:


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G 1 4. (New) A linear motion device according to Claim 1,  
2 wherein said at least one spacer is an integrally formed  
3 member.

1 5. (New) A linear motion device according to Claim 4,  
2 wherein said at least one spacer is made of plastic.

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1            6. (New) A linear motion device according to Claim 4,  
2            wherein said at least one spacer is made of metallic  
3            material.

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1            7. (New) A linear motion device according to Claim 4,  
2            wherein the sectional shape of each concave surface of  
3            said at least one spacer includes a central portion  
4            substantially perpendicular to a line joining respective  
5            centers of the adjacent balls, and a pair of inclined portions  
6            extending from opposite ends of the central portion to an  
7            ~~axial end edge of the spacer.~~

1            8. (New) A linear motion device according to Claim 2,  
2            wherein said at least one spacer is an integrally formed  
3            member.

1            9. (New) A linear motion device according to Claim 8,  
2            wherein said at least one spacer is made of plastic.

1            10. (New) A linear motion device according to Claim 8,  
2            wherein said at least one spacer is made of metallic  
3            material.

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